



LOCKDOWN LETTER

Wednesday 15 September 2021



Well it looks like our “lockdown letters” may be a way of connecting with all our parishioners for some time to come. But of course we also encourage you to connect with each other. I was speaking to one of our parishioners today who told me that it occurred to her how pastoral care is the domain of everyone not just a team of designated people, so she is texting people she misses seeing each Sunday to check in with them. The opportunity to connect during “lockdowns” is the theme of this Sunday’s reflection resource. I hope you enjoy it.

Remember if you are feeling isolated and would like a lockdown call, let Patsy Cochrane (Phone: 5218219, 021 024 00417) or Isabella Tedcastle (phone 575 5323, 021 776 263) know.

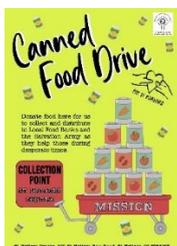
Please continue to pray for our church family, community, our country’s leaders and all those working on the frontline or in essential businesses.

Lockdown Worship: This week I (Jill) pose the question “What does love look like in lockdown?” I hope you find it helpful. If you’d like to share a reflection linked to a scripture, please send it to jillkaysernz@gmail.com

We are also invited to join the virtual community of St Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Symonds Street in worship. Thank you Rev David Williams for sharing your worship service with us.

Both these worship resources will be emailed to members on Saturday afternoon. We appreciate your feedback.

Your opinions are important: Thank for you those who have responded to our survey that asks two important questions namely: **What are we doing well?** and **What could we do better?** We invite you to reflect on these questions in relation to the last 6 months and respond on the form attached and send your answers to jillkaysernz@gmail.com or to Margaret Mathieson.



Food for Hunger: Bill Duncan writes that he is “buying up” Pak ‘n Save so that he will have lots of food to start building our food tower once we are back together again. He encourages you too to start purchasing cans or packaged food to contribute to the “Food for Hunger” missional project. The food collected will be donated to the Salvation Army and local foodbank at Christmas time.



Seeking a Health and Safety Officer: Our Church Council is committed to ensuring that safety is a priority for our Church, Community Centres, staff, parishioners and the public. Graeme Smith, our Acting General Manager is doing a great job on revising all our health and safety policies and has identified a need for a Health and Safety Officer to oversee this important area in the future. A role description and responsibilities (not too onerous) is available for interested candidates. Please let Graeme or any Church Council member know if you would be willing to serve our church in this area.



Council News: It's "business as usual" for our Interim Church Council. While we are all disappointed that our Council elections were postponed due to lockdown, which meant that our Ministry Settlement Board (the group who will be involved in seeking a new minister) elections were also delayed, the ICC continues to meet via zoom. Our next meeting is next Thursday. Following the meeting we will be sharing a brief "communique" of decisions being made on your behalf. We thank our ICC for their work and commitment.

Lockdown Inspiration: Read a good book, watched a good film or TV series, listened to a good Youtube talk or podcast?

Raewyn Dakers recommends a Youtube video featuring a young English musical prodigy Alma Deutscher and a TV3 series "Classical Destinations" airing on Sundays at 9 am that features classical composers and the cities they lived in.

David Carden is feeling inspired by the books of renowned religious researcher and creator of the Charter of Compassion, Karen Armstrong.

What's inspiring you this lockdown?

Stay safe and well. God bless. **Jill Kayser, Transition Facilitator**